Availability of gas and oil in Rajasthan

†763. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil and gas reserves has been discovered in abundance in different areas of Rajasthan;

(b) the locations and the quantum of oil and gas reserves discovered in Rajasthan;

(c) by when the production is likely to commence from these reserves in the State;

(d) the details of other areas in Rajasthan where oil and gas refining process is in progress; and

(e) the areas where availability of oil and gas is possible alongwith details?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The oil and gas-in-place reserves established by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Private/Joint Venture companies are 59.60 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) and 12.64 Billion Cublic Metres (BCM) respectively. The gas finds by ONGC and OIL are in the locations of Bagi Tibba, Bakhri, Bankia, Chinnewala Tibba, Dandewala, Ghotaru, Kharatar, Manhera Tibba, Sadewala and Tanot in Jaisalmer basin. Recently made oil finds by Private company are at the locations of Kawas, Koslu, Naganna, Nagar and Tantra in the Barmer-Sanchor basin.

(c) After discovery of any hydrocarbon in quantities which have the potential to become commercial, the field has to be delineated and assessed for its production potential. It is put on production thereafter, if found techno-economically viable. Therefore, no time frame can be laid down in advance for this. ONGC and OIL are producing natural gas from the discovered fields in the Jaisalmer basin of Rajasthan and supplying gas to Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. since 1996.

(d) There is no oil Refinery in the State of Rajasthan.

(e) ONGC is carrying out its exploration efforts in the two exploration blocks falling in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. OIL has been awarded

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

three exploration blocks, namely, RJ-ONN-2000/1, RJ-ONN-2001/1 and RJ-ONN-2002/1 under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) falling in the areas of Churu, Ganganagar and Bikaner.

Decline in foreign tourists

764. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that , of late, there has been a decline in the foreign tourists to India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the decline in foreign tourists is due to increase in incidents of kidnapping, rape and murder;

(c) if so, the number of kidnapping, rape and murder cases involving foreign tourists, reported during the last three years and the outcome of the investigations made therein; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to make Delhi a safe city for foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise;

(c) Since law and order is a State subject, detailed information is not available.

(d) The Government of Delhi has taken various steps to make Delhi a safe city for foreign tourists. These include:

- Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation Limited (DTTDC) is running Tourist Information Centres at various strategic points of Delhi, which act as complaint receiving centres.
- DTTDC proposes to set up Tourist Police at a few sites including IGI Airport on experimental basis.
- DTTDC also proposes to introduce Complaint Box in its website for lodging complaints through its website.